WILMINGTON JOURNAL: Published every Friday Morning, by PRICE & FULTON, Proprietors. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION :

\$2 50 a-year, in advance, or \$3 00 if not paid within three months after subscribing.

No subscription received for less than 12 months. No subscription received to discontinue his paper afexpiration of said year.

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Wilmington Dournal.

DAVID FULTON, EDITOR.

VOL. 4 .-- NO. 40.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

GEN. WILLIAM O. BUTLER,

Of Kentucky. BY FRANCIS/P. BLAIR.

In memoirs of individuals of distinction, it is usual to look back to their ancestry. The stock, had three son, the eldest a judge. The lians were recalled to the encampment in the feeling is universal which prompts us to learn something of even an ordinary acquaintance in whom interest is felt. It will indulge, therefore, only a natural and proper curiosity to introduce the subject of this notice by a

General Bufler's grandfather, Thomas Butler, was born 6th April, 1720, in Kilkenny, General Jackson at New Orleans; next, Gen'l Butler induced three of his company to go back who are most deeply interested-busi- Ireland. He married there in 1742 Three William O. Butler, the subject of this notice; in the woods with him, to bring him off. He all professions and all political creeds- of his five sons who attained manhood, Richard, William, and Thomas, were born abroad. general in the campaigns of the war of 1812. one of the men, Jeremiah Walker, receiving a Pierce, the father of General William O But- Percival Butler, the youngest son, now a dis- shot, of which he subsequently died. ler, and Edward, the youngest son, were born tinguished lawyer, was not of an age to bear in Pennsylvania. It is remarkable that all arms in the last war. Of the second genera- Raisin, on the 22d of January, with the Britthese men, and all their immediate male de- tion of Butlers, there are nine certainly, and ish and Indians, another act of self-devotion scendants, with a single exception, were en- probably more, engaged in the present war. was performed by Butler. After the rout and

FATETIEVILLE MAIL, by Rail Road, is due on Mondays of Morgan's celebrated rifle regiment, and to a letter of an old Pennsylvania friend of the 1sh and Indians was concentrated against the Wednesdays and Fridays, at 3 P. M., and closes on same him it owed much of the high character that parents, who transplanted it from ireland, small body of troops under Major Madison, gave it a fame of its own, apart from the oth-FAYEFTEVILLE MAIL, by Prospect Hall, Elizabethtown, er corps of the revolution. The cool, discip- itance. "While the five sons," says the let eted gardens. A double barn, commanding West cooks, and Robesons, is due on Tuesdays Thurs- lined valor which gave steady and deadly di- ter, "were absent from home in the service the plat of ground on which the Kentuckians Asys and Saturdays, at 9 A. M., and closes en same days rection to the rifles of this regiment, was de. of the country, the old father took it in his stood, was approached on one side by the Incity commanded Wayne's left in the attack on gain; and the country wants every man who discovered advancing to take possession of it. appointed major-general. On the 4th of No- this extraordinary zeal of the Butler family lodgment of the enemy at a place which would vember, 1791, he was killed in Gen St. Clair's which induced Gen. Washington to give the present every man within the pickets at close shot, gave such a peculiar interest to his fate, his own table, whilst surrounded by a large jor Madison inquired if there was no one who Florida line, just in time to follow our beloved the Union in wax figures. Notices of this nati. A similar tribute of respect was paid to to the combustibles within the barn, to save The vanguard of the army destined for the in Veatly executed and with despatch, on accomplished soldier will be found in Mar- this devoted house of soldiers by Gen. Lafay- the remnant of the little army from sacrifice. Museum, volume xi, page 44, appendix.

William Butler, the second son, was an of- done, I ordered a Butler to do it." ing the war. At the battle of Brandywine he Capt. Hart's company of infantry as a private for many weeks. received the thanks of Washington on the field | soldier. of battle, through his aid-de-camp Gen. Ham- Before the march to join the northwestern Winchester had surrendered, after being car-

ton Irving (Knickerbocker) has worked up a the character of the subject of this memoir afine piece of burlesque, in which Gen. Wil- lone are proper here. kinson's character is inimitably delineated in that of the vain and pompous General Von | - one on the 18th, the other on the 22d of

General Wm. O. Butler, was born at Carlisle, tribes, for the defence of Upper Canada against Pennsylvania, in 1760. He entered the army the approaching Kentuckians, were encount the field. It would extend the extract too far as a lieutenant at the age of eighteen; was tered. In moving to the attack of this formito insert them. We can only add the close of with Washington at Valley Forge; was in dable force of the fiercest, and bravest, and the poem, where he takes leave of a group of the battle of Monmouth, and at the taking of most expert warriors on the continent, a strong his young comrades in Hart's company, who Yorktown-being through the whole series party of them were described from the line had fallen together: of struggles in the middle States, with the with which Ensign Butler advanced, running troops under the commander-in chief, except forward to reach a fence, as a cover from for a short period when he was attached to a which to ply their rifles. Butler instantly prolight corps commanded by La Fayette, who posed, and was permitted, to anticipate them. presented him a sword. Near the close of the Calling upon some of the most alert and active war, he went to the South with the Pennsyl- men of the company, he ran directly to meet vania brigade, where peace found him. He the Indians at the fence. He and his comemigrated to Kentucky in 1784. He was the rades outstripped the enemy, and, getting poslast of the old stock left when the war of 1812 session of the fence, kept the advantage of the commenced. He was made adjutant general position for their advancing friends. This inwhen Kentucky became a State, and in that | cident, of however little importance as to recapacity joined one of the armies sent out by sults, is worth remembrance in giving the traits Kentucky during the war.

brothers, was two young to enter the army in | in battle, feels, for the moment, somewhat apthe first stages of the revolution, but joined it palled; and Gen. Wolfe, one of the bravest of near the close, and had risen to a captaincy men, declared that the "horrid yell of the Inwhen General St. Clair took the command, dian strikes the boldest heart with affright." and led it to that disastrous defeat in which so The strippling student, who, for the first time, many of the best soldiers of the country per- beheld a field of battle on the snows of the ished. He there evinced the highest courage river Raisin, presenting in bold relief long files the regiment to which he belonged. But as sumed command of the regiment to which he belonged. But as and strongest fraternal affection, in carrying of those terrible enemies, whose massacres this promotion was irregular, being made over most gallantly to repeated and successful to the heart of Kentucky passed. Until the his wounded brother out of the massacre, had filled his native State with tales of horwhich was continued for miles along the route of the retreating army, and from which was given him in the 44th, a newof the retreating army, and from which so few But the crack of the Indian rifle, and his sav- ly raised regiment. When freed from parole, their rear, when an officer of the general's staff tangled forests, and the labyrinths of hills,

Powder, a great variety. For sale by LIPPITT & WILLKINGS,

War. His son, Captain James Butler, was at he head of the Pittsburg Blues, which com
The close of the battle of the 18th gave ano
[Concluded on the commander in the nation's esteem.]

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War. His son, Captain James Butler, was at the head of the Pittsburg Blues, which com
The close of the battle of the 18th gave ano
[Concluded on the commander in the nation's esteem.] manded in the campaigns of the northwest, ther instance in which these latter traits of share which Captain Butler had in the Cam-

GOD, OUR COUNTRY, AND LIBERTY.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1848.

and was particularly distinguished in the bat- Gen. Butler's character were still more stri- paign which followed, that it may well super- ehief, was intitled to higher credit for the imated him through life, educated by the legislation of that glorison with the paign which followed, that it may well super-

the army of General Jackson.

short account of a family whose striking traits lutionary war, and adjutant general of Kenthe dark forest, the voice of a wounded man, as a gentleman and a soldier, as any other third, Richard, who was assistant adjutant was found, and they fought their way back-

The eldest, Richard, was lieutenant colonel acter of the race. An anecdote, derived from Wells's command, the whole force of the Britshows that its military instinct was an inher- that maintained their ground within the pickrived principally from this officer, who devo- head to go also. The neighbors collected to dians, under the cover of an orchard and fence; ted himself to the drill of his men He was remonstrate against it; but his wife said, 'Let the British, on the other side, being so posted promoted to the full command of a regiment him go! I can get along without him, and as to command the space between it and the some time during the war, and in that capa- raise something to feed the army in the bar- pickets. A party in the rear of the barn were Stony Point. About the year 1790, he was can shoulder a musket." It was doubtless A'l saw the fatal consequences of the secure bloody battle with the In tians, after he was toast-" The Butlers, and their five sons," at rifle-shot to the aim of their marksmen. Mathat a representation of himself and the group party of officers. This anecdote rests on the would volunteer to run the gauntlet of the fire surrounding him was exhibited throughout authority of the late Gen. Findley, of Cincin- of the British and Indian lines, and put a torch shal's life of Washington, pages 290, 311, 420. ette, in a letter now extant, and in the posses- Butler, without a moment's delay, took some In Gen. St. Clair's report, in the American sion of a lady connected with it by marriage. blazing sticks from a fire at hand, leaped the

ficer throughout the revolutionary war, rose From this retrospect, it will be seen that, One who was an anxious spectator of the eto the rank of colonel, and was in many of in all the wars of the country-in the revolu- vent we narrate, says, "that although volley the severest battles. He was the favorite of tionary war, in the Indian war, in the last upon volley was fired at him, Butler, after the family, and was boasted of by his race of British war, and the present Mexican war- making some steps on his way back, turned heroes as the coolest and boldest man in bat- the blood of almost every Butler able to bear to see if the fire had taken, and, not being sattle they had ever known. When the army arms has been freely shed in the public cause. is fied, returned to the barn, and set in a blaze. was greatly reduced in rank and file, and there Maj. Gen. William O. Butler is now among As the conflagration grew, the enemy was were many superfluous officers, they organi- the highest in the military service of his coun- seen retreating from the rear of the building, zed themselves into a separate corps, and e- try; and he has attained this grade from the which they had entered at one end as the flame lected him to the command. General Wash- ranks-the position of a private being the on- ascended in the other. Soon after reaching ington declined receiving this novel corps of ly one he ever sought. At the opening of the the pickets in safety, amid the shouts of his commissioned soldiers, but, in a proud testi- war of 1812, he had just graduated in the friends, he was struck by a ball in his breast. monial, did honor to their devoted patriotism. Transylvania University, and was looking to Delieving, from the pain he felt, that it had the law as a profession. The surrender of penetrated his chest, turning to Adjutant (now the following facts from the American Bio- Detroit, and of the army by Hull, aroused the General) McCalla, one of his Lexington com graphical Dictionary. In the year 1776, whilst patriotism and the valor of Kentucky; and rades, and pressing his hand to the spot, he he was a student of law in the office of the young Butler, yet in his minority, was among said, "I fear this shot is mortal; but while I eminent Judge Wilson, of Philadelphia, he the first to volunteer. He gave up his books, am able to move, I will do my duty." To the left his pursuit and joined the army as a sub- and the enjoyments of the gay and polished anxious inquiries of this friend, who met him altern. He soon obtained the command of a society in Lexington, where he lived among a soon afterward again, he opened his vest, with company, in which he continued to the close circle of fond and partial relations-the hope a smile, and showed him that the ball had of the revolutionary war. He was in almost to gratify their ambition in shining at the bar, spent itself on the thick wadding of his coat CABINET FUR.NITURE, every action fought in the middle States dur- or in the political forum of the State—to join and on his breastbone. He saffered, however, discharged upon us small arms and artillery.

ilton, for his intrepid conduct in rallying a army, he was elected a corporal. In this grade ried himself a prisoner to Proctor's camp, dedetachment of retreating troops, and giving he marched to the relief of Fort Wayne, which nied his powers. They continued to hold the the enemy a severe fire. At the battle of was invested by hostile Indians. These were enemy at bay until they were enabled to ca-Monmouth he received the thanks of General driven before the Kentucky volunteers to their pitulate on honorable terms, which, neverthe-Wayne for defending a defile, in the face of towns on the Wabash, which were destroyed, less, Proctor shamefully violated, by leaving a severe fire from the enemy, while colonel and the troops then returned to the Miami of the sick and wounded, who were unable to Richard Butler's regiment made good its re- the lakes, where they made a winter encamp- walk, to the tomahawk of his allies. Butler, From Pensacola, after the object of the ex- ed that heroic chivalry, and calmness of judgenjoyment of rural and domestic happiness declined, unless permitted to remain with the wound, and every privation-oppressed with the enemy. lieutenant-colonel commandant of the 4th regiment, (17th U. S.,) advanced to encounter boyhood, to show that the heroic youth had a ted across the river. All the available forces sub legion. He commanded in this year Fort | the force of British and Indians which defen-Fayette, at Pittsburg, and prevented the de- ded Detroit. On leaving Kentucky, the volluded insurgents from taking it-more by his unteers had pledged themselves to drive the name than by his forces, for he had but few British invaders from our soil. These men troops. The close of his life was embittered and their leaders were held in such estimation with trouble. In 1803 he was arrested by the at home, that the expectation formed of them commanding general (Wilkinson) at Fort Ad- exceeded their promises; and these volunams, on the Mississippi, and sent to Mary- teers, though disappointed in every succor land, where he was tried by a court-martial, which they had reason to anticipate-wantand acquitted of all the charges, save that of ing in provisions, clothes, cannon, in every wearing his hair He was then ordered to thing-resolved, rather than lose reputation. New Orleans, where he arrived, to take rom- to press on to the enterprise, and endeavor to mand of the troops, October 20th. He was draw on after them, by entering into action North of Messrs. Hart & Polley's, Wilnot sit until July of the next year, and their ter into explanations of the causes of the disdecision is not known. Colonel Butler died aster at the river Raisin, the consequence of September 7, 1805. Out of the arrest and this movement, nor to give the particulars of persecution of this sturdy veteran, Washing- the battle. The incidents which signalized

> January. In the first, the whole body of Inof a young soldier's character. It is said that Edward Butler, the youngest of the five the hardiest veteran, at the opening of the fire

There were two battles at the river Raisin

kingly illustrated. The Indians, driven from sede any narrative at second hand, 2d. Colonel William Butler, also of the re- the defences around the town on the river Raivolutionary army, had two sons; one died in sin, retired fighting into the thick woods bethe navy, the other a subaltern in Wayne's | yond it. The contest of sharp-shooting from army. He was in the battle with the Indians tree to tree was here continued-the Kentuckians pressing forward, and the Indians retreat-3d. Lieut Col. Thomas Butler, of the old ing-until night closed in, when the Kentucksecond, Col. Robert Butler, was at the head of village. The Indians advanced as their oppo-Gen'l Jackson's staff throughout the last war. sers withdrew, and kept up the fire until the The third, William E. Butler, also served in Kentuckians emerged from the woods into the open ground. Just as the column to which 4th. Percival Butler, captain in the revo- Ensign Butler belonged reached the verge of tucky during the last war, had four sons: who had been left some distance behind, was first, Thomas, who was a captain, and aid to heard calling out most piteously for help .-

In the second sanguinary battle of the river This glance at the family shows the char- massacre of the right wing, belonging to

Lafayette says, "When I wanted a thing well pickets, and, running at his utmost speed, bay. thrust the fire into the straw within the barn.

The little band within the pickets, which

bosom not less kind than brave. THE FIELD OF RAISIN. The battle 's o'er! the din is past, Night's mantle on the field is cast; The Indian yell is heard no more And silence broods o'er Erie's shore At this lone hour I go to tread The field where valor vainly bled-To raise the wounded warrior's crest, Or warm with tears his icy breast; To treasure up his last command, And bear it to his native land. It may one pulse of joy impart To a fond mother's bleeding heart; Or for a moment it may dry The tear-drop in the widow's eye. Vain hope, away! The widow ne'er Her warrior's dying wish shall hear. The passing zep yr bears no sigh, No wounded warrior meets the eye-Death is his sleep by Erie's wave, Of Raisin's snow we heap his grave The mother's joy, the father's pride, The country's boast, the foeman's lear, In wilder'd havoc, side by side. Lend me, thou silent queen of night, Lend me awhile thy waning light, That I may see each well loved form, That sunk beneath the morning storm.

These lines are introductory to what may Percival Butler, the fourth son, father of dian warriors, drawn together from all the lake be considered a succession of epitaphs on the personal friends whose bodies he found upon

And here I see that youthful band, That loved to move at Hart's command; I saw them for the battle dressed, And still where danger thickest pressed, I marked their crimson plumage wave How many fill this bloody grave! Their pillow and their winding sheet The virgin snow—a shroud most meet! But wherefore do I linger here? Why drop the unavailing tear ? Where'er I turn, some youthful form, Like floweret broken by the storm, Appeals to me in sad array. And bids me vet a moment stay, Till I could fondly lay me down And sleep with him on the cold ground, For thee, thou dread and solemn plain, I ne'er shall look on thee again ; And spring, with her effacing showers. Shall come, and summer's mantling flowers; And each succeeding winter throw On thy red breast new robes of snow;

Yet I will wear thee in my heart, All dark and gory as thou art. Hair Cloth, Nail, Comb, and Tooth Brushes, matum Hair Oil, Hair Dye, Soaps, Tooth the and Powder, a great variety. For sale and Powder, a great variety. For sale by LIPPITT & WILLEINGS

Which he could scarcely hope to share, gave expected opportunity to give my views upon at that time an officer in Captain Butler's company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with each other—an object of the battle of the stall war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the present most and the coll war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the present most and the coll war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the present most and the coll war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the first war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the first war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the first war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the first war. As I am limited to a single hour, I will want myself of the f

TALLAHASSEE, April 3, 1844. SIR: I avail myself of the earliest leisure I have had since the receipt of your letter of the" 18th of February, to give you a reply. A difference of political sentiments will not induce me to withhold the narative you have requested, of the military services of Col. Wm. O Butler, during the late war with Great Bri-

tain, while attached to the army of the south. My intimate association with him, in camp, on the march, and in the field, has perhaps man living. And although we are now standing in opposite ranks. I cannot forget the days and nights we have stood side by side facing the common enemy of our country, sharing the same fatigues, dangers, and privations, and participating in the same pleasures and enjoyments. The feelings and sympathies springing from such associations in the days of our youth can never be removed or impaired by a difference of opinion with regard to men or measures, when each may well believe the other equally sincere as himself, and where the most ardent desire of both is to sustain the

honor, the happiness, and prosperity of our Soon after my appointment in the army of the United States, as a lieutenant, in the fall of 1814, I was ordered to join the company of Captain Butler, of the 44th regiment of infantry, then at Nashville, Tennessee. When I arrived and reported myself, I found the company under orders to join our regiment in the The march-mostly through an unsettled wilderness-was conducted by Capt Butler with his usual promtitude and energy and, by forced and rapid movements, we arrived at Fort Montgomery, the headquarters general in his bold enterpise to drive the enemy vasion of Louisiana had made Pensacola its headquarters, and the British navy in the Gulf

of Mexico had rendezvoused in that beautiful The penetrating sagacity of Gen. Jackson iscovered the advantage of the position assumed by the british forces; and, with a decision and energy which never faltered, he resolved to find his enemy, even under the flag of a neutral power. This was done by a rompt and rapid march, surprising and cutting off all the advanced pickets, until we arrived within gunshot of the fort at Pensacola. The army of Gen. Jackson was then so inconsiderable as to render a reinforcement of a single company, commanded by such an officer as Capt Butler, an important acquisition. And although there were several companies of regular troops ordered to march from Tennessee at the same time, Capt. Butler's, by his extraordinary energy and promtitude, was the only one which arrived in time to join this expedition. His company formed a part of the centre column of attack at Pensacola. The street we entered was defended by a battery in front which fired on us incessantly, while several strong blockhouses, on our flanks, But a gallant and rapid charge soon carried the guns in front, and the town immediately

In this fight Capt. Butler led on his compaofficer, Lieut. Flournoy, severely wounded, of the merit and the services of Col. Butler on

At the close of the war he retired into pri- second regiment of United States Infantry was escaped the massacre, was marched through and rapid movement we arrived at New Or- the valuable officer in the hour of battle. In vate life, as a farmer, and continued in the tendered to the volunteer corporal, which he Canada to Fort Niagara-suffering under his leans a faw weeks before the appearance of a conspicuous manner were those noble qualuntil the year 1791, when he again took the northwestern army, which he had entered to grief, hunger, fatigue, and the inclement cold | On the 23d of December the signal-gun an- December, 1814, and on the 8th of January, field to meet the savage foe that menaced our share in the effort of the Kentucky militia to of that desolate region. Even here he forgot nounced the approach of the enemy. The 1815, as well as at all times during the preswestern frontier He commanded a battalion | wipe out the disgrace of Hull's surrender by himself, and his mind wandered back to the previous night they had surprised and captur- ence of the British army at New Orleans. In in the disastrous battle of November 4, 1791, the re-capture of Detroit. His proposition was last night scene which he surveyed on the ed one of our pickits: had ascended a bayou, short, he was to be found at all points where in which his brother fell. Orders were given assented to, and he received an ensign's ap- bloody shores of the river Raisin. He gave disembarked, and had taken possession of the duty called. I hazard nothing in saying, that by Gen'l St. Clair to charge with the bayonet, pointment in the 17th infantry, then a part of up the heroic part, and became the school-boy left bank of the Mississippi, within six miles should our country again be engaged in war and Major Butler, though his leg had been the northwestern army, under the command of again, and commemorated his sorrows for his of New Orleans. The energy of every offi- during the active age of Col. Butler, he would broken by a ball, yet on horse-back, led his Gen. Winchester. After enduring every pri- lost friends in verse, like some passionate, cer was put in requisition, to concentrate our be one of the very best selections that could battalion to the charge. It was with difficul- vation in a winter encampment, in the wilder- heart-broken lover. These elegiac strains forces in time to meet the enemy. Capt But- be made to command our army, and lead the ty his surviving brother, Captain Edward But- nesses and frozen marshes of the lake coun- were never intended for any but the eye of ler was one of the first to arrive at the Gen'ls. eagles of our country on to victory and reler, removed him from the field. In 1792 he try, awaiting in vain the expected support of mutual friends, whose sympathies, like his quarters, and ask instructions; they were rewas continued in the establishment as major, additional forces, the Kentucky volunteers, own, poured out tears with their plaints over ceived, and promptly executed. Our regiment, all responsibility necessary to success, and and in 1794 he was promoted to the rank of led by Lewis, Allen, and Madison, with Wells's the dead. We give some of these lines of his stationed on the opposite side, was transpor- for his country's good of our army, not much exceeding fifteen hun- Gen. Jackson gave earlier proof of the high made their military service a passport to the dred men, were concentrated in the city; and estimation in which he held the young soldier honors and emoluments of civil stations—he while the sun went down the line of battle who had identified himself with his own glo- was averse to relinquish the attitude he occu-

Shortly after his return from Canada, En- cal situation, and in the heart of the battle, moved, not long after the birth of his son cutive measures or correspondence the British gosign Butler was promoted to a captaincy in Capt. Butler, as the senior officer present, as- William, to the mouth of the Kentucky river. vernment has been given to understand that Mr. Sarsaparilla, rasped Bermuda Arrow Root, But the crack of the instantly entered on rode up and ordered the pursuit discontinued. Streams, and cliffs, which adapted this region by exchange, in 1814, he instantly entered on rode up and ordered the pursuit discontinued. Streams, and cliffs, which adapted this region by exchange, in 1814, he instantly entered on rode up and ordered the pursuit discontinued. ed. He subsequently became adjutant gener- of his nature; and the promptitude with which active duty, with a company which he had rehe communicated his enthusiasm to a few cruited at Nashville, Tennessee. His regi-Of these five brothers, four had sons—all of comrades around, and rushed forward to meet them, with one execution, were execution, and rushed forward to meet the envision of whom, with one exception, were engaged in danger in its most appalling form, risking him- the south; but Capt. Butler, finding its move- But the order was promptly repeated under rons of Frankfort, the capital of the State. the military or naval service of the country self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self to save others, and to secure a triumph self-founded apprehension that our troops self-to-save others, and to secure a triumph self-to-save others, and to secure a triumph self-to-save others, and to secure a triumph self-to-save others, and to-save others, and to-s

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WHOLE NO. 196.

achievement of that glorious night. A short time before the battle of the 8th of tucky. January, Captain, Butler was detailed to com-

in the presence of the two armies. ring courage, but none of which more excited signing with rapture "the ear-piercing fife my admiration than this.

the 8th of January, where he sustained his dy, such airs as that to which Burns has set previously high and well earned reputation his beautiful wordsfor bravary and usefulness. But that battle, which, from its important results, has eclipsed those which preceded it, was but a slaughter of the enemy, with trivial less on our part,

and presenting few intances of individual disde camp to General Jackson, in which station which pervade these lines: he remained until he retired from the army. Since that period I have seldom had the pleasure of meeting with my valued friend and companion in arms, and know but little of his career in civil life. But in camp, his elevated principles, his intelligence and generous feelngs, won for him the respect and confidence of all who knew him; and where he is best known, I will venture to say he is still most highly appreciated for every attribute which constitutes the gentleman and the soldier. I am, sir, very respectfully,

R. K. CALL. Mr. WILLIAM TANNER. Gen Jackson's sense of the services of Butler in this memorable campaign, was strongly expressed in the following letter to a member of the Kentucky legislature: HERMITAGE, Feb. 20, 1844.

My Dear Sir: You ask me to give you my opinion of the military services of the then Capt. (now Colonel) Wm. O. Butler, of Kentucky, during the investment of New Orleans by the British forces in 1814 and 1815. ny with his usual intrepidity. He had one wish I had sufficient strength to speak fully and several non-commissioned officers and pri- that occasion; this strength I have not. Suffice it to say, that on all occasions he displayment. Here an ensign's commission in the who was among the few of the wounded who pedition was completed, by another prompt ment in the midst of danger, which distinguish ities displayed by him on the night of the 23d

forgotten. It appealed to the chivalry and civil life. The adode which he had chosen patriotism of every officer and soldier-it in- made it peculiarly so with him. The region spired every heart, and nerved every arm for around him was wild and romantic, sparcely battle. From this impressive scene the army settled, and by pastoral people. There are marched to meet the enemy, and about eight no populous towns. The high, rolling, and o'clock at night they were surprised in their yet rich lands-the precipitous cliffs of the encampment, immediately on the banks of the Kentucky, of Eagle, Severn, and other tribu-Mississippi. Undiscovered, our line was taries which pour into it near the mouth, formed in silence within a short distance of make this section of the State still, to some the enemy; a rapid charge was made into their extent, a wilderness of thickets-of the tangcamp, and a desperate conflict ensued. After led pea-vine, the grape vine, and nut-bearing Mr. Clay's defection from his old political a determined resistance, the enemy gave way. trees, which rendered all Kentucky, until the friends. but disputing every inch of ground we gained. intrusion of the whites, one great Indian park. In advancing over ditches and fences in the The whole luxuriant domain was preserved the case of the McLeod trial came up, and night, rendered still more dark by the smoke by the Indians as a pasture for buffalo, deer, Gen'l Butler delivered one of the most effective of the battle, much confusion necessarily en- elk, and other animals—their enjoyment alike speeches which were uttered on the occasion. sued, and many officers became separated from as a chase and a subsistence—by excluding As it shows in strong colors his political printheir commands. It more than once occurred every tribe from fixing a habitation in it. Its during the fight, that some of our officers, name consecrated it as the dark and bloody through mistake, entered the enemy's lines; ground; and war pursued every foot that trod tract: and the British officers in like manner entered it. In the midst of this region, in April 1791, ours. The meritorious officer in command of Wm. O. Butler was born, in Jessemine counour regiment, at the commencement of the bat- ty, on the Kentucky river. His father had tle lost his position in the darkness and confu- married in Lexington, soon after his arrival in be requested to inform this House, if not incomsion, and was unable to regain it until the ac- Kentucky, 1782, Miss Howkins, a sister-in- patible with the public interest, whether any officer tion was over. In this manner, for a short law of Col. Told, who commanded and per- of the army, or the Attorney General of the Unitime, the regiment was without a commander, ished in the battle of the Blue Licks. Fol- ted States, has, since the 4th of March last, been and its movements were regulated by the pla- lowing the instincts of his family, which seem- directed to visit the State of New York for any toon officers, which increased the confusion ed ever to court danger, Gen'l Pierce Butler, purpose connected with the imprisonment and trial and irregularity of the advance In this criti- as neighborhood encroached around him, re- of Alexander McLeod; and whether by any exe-

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gends of the Indian-fighting hunters of Ken-

To the feelings and taste inspired by the mand the guard in front of the encampment. peculiarities of the place and circumstances A house standing near the bridge, in advance adverted to, must be attributed the return of of his position, had been taken possession of Col. Butler to his father's home, to enter on by the light troops of the enemy, from whence his profession as a lawyer. There were no they annoyed our guard. Captain Butler de great causes or rich clients to attract him-no termined to dislodge them and burn the house. dense population to lift him to the political He accordingly marched to the attack at the honors of the State. The eloquence and head of his command, but the enemy retired learning, the industry and integrity which he before him. Seeing them retreat, he halted gave to adjust the controversies of Gallatiff his guard, and advanced himself, accompan- and the surrounding counties, would have ied by two or three men only, for the purpose crowned him with wealth and professional of burning the house. It was an old frame distinction, if exhibited at Louisville or Lexbuilding, weather-boarded, without ceiling or ington. But he coveted neither. Indepenplaster in the incide, with a shingle door open- dence, the affections of his early associates; ing to the British camp. On entering the the love of a family circle, and the charm house, he found a soldier of the ememy con-cealed in one corner, whom he captured and gave to the scenes in which he was reared, sent to the rear with his men, remaining alone were all he sought; and he found them all in in the house. While he was in the act of the romantic dells and woodland heights of kindling a fire, a detachment of the enemy, un- the Kentucky, and on the sides of the farpreceived, occupied the only door. The first spreading, gently-flowing, beautiful Ohio.mpulse was to force, with his single arm, a The feeling which his sincere and sensitive passage through them; but he was instantly nature had imbibed here, was as strong as that seized in a violent manner by two or three of the Switzer for his bright lakes, lofty mounstout fellows, who pushed him back against tens, and deep valleys. The wild airs of the the wall with such force as to burst off the boat horn, which have resounded for so many weather-boarding from the wall, and he fell years from arks descending the Ohio and Kenthrough the opening thus made. In an in- tucky, floating along the current, and recurstant he recovered himself, and, under a heavy ring in echoes from the hollows of the hills, fire from the enemy, he retreated until suppor- like its eddies, became as dear to him as the ted by the guard, which he immediately led famous Rans de Vache to the native of Switon to the attack, drove the British light troops | zerland. We insert, as characteristic alike of from their strong position, and burnt the house the poetical talent and temperament of Butlei; some verses which the sound of this rude in-I witnessed on that field many deeds of da- strument evoked when he returned home, reand spirit-stirring drum" for the wooden horn; Capt. Butler was soon after in the battle of which can only compass, in its simple melo-

> When wild war's deadly blast was blawn And gentle peace returning, Wi' mony a sweet babe fatherless, I left the lines and tented field.

The music of this song made the burden of the "Boatman's Horn," and always announ-Captain Butler received the brevet rank of ced the approaching ark to the river villages. Major for his gallant services during that The sentiments of the poet, as well as the eventful campaign, and the reward of merit sweet and deep tones which wafted the plainwas never more worthily bestowed. Soon af- live air over the wide expanse of the Ohio, ter the close of the war, he was appointed aid- may have contributed to awaken the feelings THE BOAT HORN.

O. boatman! wind that horn again, For never did the list ning air Upon its lambent bosom bear So wild, so soft, so sweet a strain What though thy notes are sad and few; By every simple boatman blown. And melody in every tone How oft in boybood's joyous day, Unmindful of the lapsing hours, I've lottered on my liomeward way By wild Ohio's brink of flowers, While some lone boatman, from the deck, Poured his soft numbers to that lide, As if to charm from storm and wreck The boat where all his fortunes ride Delighted Nature drank the sound, Enchanted—Echo bore it round In whispers soft, and softer still, Till e'en the thoughtless, frelick boy, Elate with hope, and wild with joy, Who gambol'd by the river's side, And sported with the fretting tide Feels something new pervade his breast, Chain his light step, repress his jest, Bends o'er the flood his eager car To catch the sounds far off, yet dear-Drinks the sweet draught, but knowns not why The tear of rapture fills his eye. Teil why those notes, simple and lone, As on the ravished ear they fell, Bind every sense in magic spell 1 There is a tide of feeling given To all on earth—its fountain, Heaven, Beginning with the dewy flower, Just oped in Flora's vernal bower-With louder marmur, brighter hue That tide is sympathy! its ebb and flow Give life its bues of joy and wo. Its waves to war, or full them into love-Can cheer the sinking sailor mid the wave, And bid the soldier on! nor fear the grave— Inspire the fainting pilgrim on his road, And elevate his soul to claim his God. Then, boatman! wind that hern again! Though much of sorrow mark its strain, Yet are its notes to sorrow dear What though they wake fond memory's tear! Tears are sad Memory's sacred feast, And Rapture oft her chosen guest.

This retirement, which may almost be considered seclusion, was enjoyed by Col. Butler nearly twenty-five years, when he was called out by the democratic party to redeem; by his personal popularity, the congressional district in which he lived. It was supposed that no one else could save it from the whigs. Like all the rest of his family-none of whom had was formed, and every officer took the station ry at New Orleans. He made him his aid-de pied, to enter on a party struggle. The imassigned him in the fight. The infantry formed camp in 1816, which station he retained on portunity of friends prevailed; and he was eon the open square, in front of the cathedral, the peace establishment, with the rank of co- lected to two successive terms in Congresswaiting in anxions expectation for the order to lonel. But, like his illustrious patron, he absolutely refusing to be a candidate a third move. During this momentary pause, while soon felt that military station and distinction time He spoke seldom in Congress; but, in the enemy was expected to enter the city, a had no charms for him when unattended with two or three fine speeches, which appear in scene of deep and thrilling interest was pre- the dangers, duties, and patriotic achievements the debates, a power will readily be detected; sented. Every gallery, porch, and window of war. He resigned, therefore, even the as- which could not have failed to conduct to the around the square were filled with the fair sociation with his veteran chief, of which he highest distinction in that body. Taste, judgforms of beauty, in silent anxiety and alarm, was so proud, and retired in 1817 to private ment, and eloquence characterized all his efwaving their handkerchiefs to the gallant and life. He resumed his study of the profession forts in Congress. A fine manner, an agreeadevoted band which stood before them, pre- that was interrupted by the war, married, and ble voice, and the high consideration accorded pared to die, or defend them from the rude in- settled down on his patrimonial possession at to him by the members of all parties, gave strusion of a foreign soldiery. It was a scene the confluence of the Kentucky and Ohio rivcalculated to awaken emotions never to be ers, in the noiseless but arduous vocations of obtain—an attentive and gratified audience. Gen Butler's political principles have been;

> from his youth to the present day, uniformly democratic. Brought up in the school of opinion in which Mr. Clay was once a successful teacher, General Butler refused to yield his principles, to promote the aspirations of Kentucky's champion. Neither cajolements nor threats could swerve him from the line of rectitude: and this fact accounts for his having lived so much in retirement since the period of While he held a seat in Congress in 1841,

ciples, as well as furnishes a specimen of his congressional style of debate, we give an ex-

The following resolution of Mr. Floyd being under consideration :

Resolved, That the President of the U. States

which he could scarcely hope to share, gave junction with his company alone. Gen. Call, might come in collision with each other—an Ohio, on the farther shore of which the sav-

[Concluded on 4th page.]